

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 to 22 and add new Claims 23 to 26 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A network device managing apparatus for managing a network to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least once after activation is; connected, ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

packet receiving means for receiving a packet which is broadcast from the device when the device is activated;

packet determining means for determining whether the packet received by said packet receiving means is a network managing packet;

device address acquiring means for acquiring from the packet ~~the~~ an address of a the device which has transmitted the packet, if said packet determining means determines that the packet is a network managing packet; and

device address registering means for registering the device address acquired by the device address acquiring means.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the apparatus further comprises~~ comprising transmitting means for transmitting, to said device having the address acquired by said device address acquiring means, a verify packet for verifying that said device is a predetermined type of device, and

if a response indicating that said device is a predetermined type of device is returned as a response to the verify packet, said device address registering means registers the status of said device which has returned the response together with the address.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 2, characterized in that wherein, the response to the verify packet contains information indicating the operating status of said device.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 2, characterized in that wherein, ~~said transmitting means transmits a~~ the verify packet is a packet for acquiring the status of a printer to said device ~~having the acquired address~~, and, if a response indicating that said device is a printer is returned as a response to the verify packet, said device address registering means registers the address of said device and information indicating that said device is a printer.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, characterized by further comprising display control means for controlling a display unit to display the address of said device registered by said device address registering means.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 2, characterized by further comprising display control means for controlling a display unit to display the address of said device registered by said device address registering means together with the status of said device.

7. (Currently Amended) A network system comprising:
a network device for broadcasting a network managing packet at least once after activation;
a device information server for storing information concerning a device

connected to a network; and

a network device managing apparatus comprising packet receiving means for receiving a packet which is broadcast from the network device when the network device is activated, packet determining means for determining whether the packet received by said packet receiving means is a network managing packet, device address acquiring means for acquiring from the packet the address of a the network device which has transmitted the packet, if said packet determining means determines that the packet is a network managing packet, and device address registering means for registering the device address acquired by the device address acquiring means in said device information server.

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that wherein~~, said network device managing apparatus further comprises transmitting means for transmitting, to said network device having the address acquired by said device address acquiring means, a verify packet for verifying that said network device is an object of monitoring, and

if a response indicating that said network device is an object of monitoring is returned as a response to the said verify packet, said device address registering means registers the status of said network device which has returned the response together with the address.

9. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that wherein~~, the response to the verify packet contains information indicating the operating status of said network device.

10. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 6 8, characterized in that wherein, ~~said transmitting means transmits a~~ the verify packet is a packet for acquiring the status of a printer ~~to said device having the acquired address~~, and, if a response indicating that said network device is a printer is returned as a response to the verify packet, said address registering means registers the address of said network device as a source of response and information indicating that said network device is a printer.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 7, characterized by further comprising display means for displaying the address of said network device registered by said address registering means.

12. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 8, characterized by further comprising display means for displaying the address of said network device registered by said address registering means together with the status of said network device.

13. (Currently Amended) A network device managing method of managing a network to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least once after activation is connected, ~~characterized by~~ comprising the steps of:

the a packet receiving step of receiving a packet which is broadcast from the device when the device is activated;

the a packet determining step of determining whether the packet received in said packet receiving step is a network managing packet;

the a device address acquiring step of acquiring from the packet the address

of a device which has transmitted the packet, if said packet determining step determines that the packet is a network managing packet; and

the a device address registering step of registering the device address acquired by the device address acquiring step.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 13, ~~characterized in that the method further comprises~~ comprising the a transmitting step of transmitting, to said device having the address acquired in said device address acquiring step, a verify packet for verifying that said device is an object of monitoring, and

if a response indicating that said device is an object of monitoring is returned as a response to the ~~said~~ verify packet, said device address registering step comprises registering the status of said device which has returned the response together with the address.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, the response to the verify packet contains information indicating the operating status of said device.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized in~~ that wherein, said ~~transmitting step comprises transmitting a~~ verify packet is a packet for acquiring the status of a printer ~~to said device having the acquired address~~, and, if a response indicating that said device is a printer is returned as a response to the verify packet, said address registering step comprises registering the address of said device as a

source of response and information indicating that said device is a printer.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 13, ~~characterized~~ by further comprising ~~the~~ a display step of displaying the address of said device registered in said address registering step.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 14, ~~characterized~~ by further comprising ~~the~~ a display step of displaying the address of said device registered in said address registering step together with the status of said device.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium ~~characterized by~~ storing a computer program for implementing the network device managing method according to Claim 13 by a computer.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, said device address registering means registers the device address in an external managing apparatus connected via the network.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising device address transmitting means for transmitting the address of said device registered by said device address registering means to an external client apparatus connected via the network.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim 1,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein, the network managing packet is an SNMP trap packet.

23. (New) A network device managing apparatus for managing a network to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least one after activation is connected, comprising:

a network interface board; and

a trap monitor for (i) receiving, via the network interface board, a packet which is broadcast from the device when the device is activated, (ii) determining whether the packet received by said network interface board is a network managing packet, (iii) acquiring from the packet the address of the device which has transmitted the packet if it is determined that the packet is a network managing packet, and (iv) registering the acquired device address.

24. (New) A network device managing apparatus for managing a network to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least once after activation is connected, comprising:

packet recognizing means for recognizing a packet received from the network;

packet determining means for determining whether the packet recognized by said packet recognizing means is a network managing packet;

device address acquiring means for acquiring from the packet the address of the device which has transmitted the packet if said packet determining means determines that the packet is a network managing packet; and

device address registering means for registering the acquired device address

to an external managing apparatus on the network.

25. (New) The apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein said device address registering means registers the device address to said external managing apparatus which is implemented in accordance with Lightweight Directory Access Protocol.

26. (New) A network device managing apparatus for managing a network to which a device which broadcasts a network managing packet at least once after activation is connected, comprising:

a network interface board; and

a trap monitor for (i) recognizing a packet received from the network via the network interface board, (ii) determining whether the packet received by said network interface board is a network managing packet, (iii) acquiring from the packet the address of the device which has transmitted the packet if it is determined that the packet is a network managing packet, and (iv) registering the device address to an external managing apparatus on the network.